

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ORM-01 /066 W
----- 122452

R 192209Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4431

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5673

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, SHUM, UN, PFOR

SUBJECT: UNHRC AND POSSIBLE CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MEASURES

REF: STATE 194786

1. PARA 3 REFTEL ASKED WHAT MEASURES GOC MIGHT TAKE TO
IMPROVE ITS POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRIOR TO UNGA
CONSIDERATION.

2. AS INDICATED SANTIAGO 5638, GOC SAYS IT IS ALREADY TAKING
SOME STEPS. THESE INCLUDE:

A) PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS IN CHILE ARE IN TOUCH WITH UNHRC
WORKING GROUP, PRESUMABLY AT GOC INSTANCE.

B) AMBASSADOR BAZAN WILL MEET INFORMALLY WITH CHAIRMAN
AND MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUP IN GENEVA.

C) GOC HAS INFORMED SYG WALDHEIM FORMALLY THAT GOC IS READY
TO FURNISH HIM ALL NECESSARY HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION. GOC
MAY VOLUNTEER INFORMATION IF HE DOES NOT REQUEST IT.

D) FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT HERE KEEPS ALIVE HOPE THAT
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IT MAY YET BE POSSIBLE SOME MONTHS FROM NOW TO ARRANGE FOR

VISIT OF UNHRC WORKING GROUP. THE GOC MAY CONVEY THIS NOTION TO OTHERS WITH SOME GOOD EFFECT IN ADVANCE OF UNGA.

3. THERE IS NO ASSURANCE GOC WILL TAKE ANY ADDITIONAL MEASURES. HOWEVER, WE ARE STARTING TO HEAR RUMORS THAT, VERY SHORTLY IF NOT IN CONJUNCTION WITH SEPTEMBER 11 SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF COUP, SOME NEW MEASURES WILL BE ANNOUNCED (SANTIAGO 5488). MOST OFTEN MENTIONED ARE A REDUCTION (BUT NOT ELIMINATION) OF STATE OF SIEGE, A LARGER ROLE FOR CIVILIAN COURTS, AND RESTORATION TO SOME EXTENT OF RIGHT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN NATIONAL SECURITY CASES.

4. CHANGES IN THESE AREAS, IF ACTUALLY PUT INTO EFFECT, COULD BE VERY IMPORTANT. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MANY SENIOR GOC OFFICIALS WOULD REGARD SUCH MEASURES AS MAJOR CONCESSIONS. GIVEN PAST EXPERIENCE, HOWEVER, OBSERVERS WILL WANT TO OBSERVE IMPLEMENTATION CAREFULLY BEFORE REACHING AN ESTIMATE OF THEIR REAL SIGNIFICANCE.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTIA05673
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750287-0239
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750839/aaaabifi.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 194786
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNHRC AND POSSIBLE CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS MEASURES
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, CI, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006